

New York Tribune.

First to Last—The Truth—Editorials—Advertisements.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1915.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation, 400 N. York, President; G. Vernon Rogers, Secretary and Treasurer. Address: Tribune Building, No. 134 Nassau Street, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York.
Daily & Sunday, 1 month, \$1.00; 3 months, \$2.75; 6 months, \$5.00; 1 year, \$9.00.
Daily & Sunday, 1 month, \$1.00; 3 months, \$2.75; 6 months, \$5.00; 1 year, \$9.00.
Sunday only, 6 months, \$1.25; Sunday only, 1 year, \$2.00.

FOREIGN RATES—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York.
Daily & Sunday, 1 month, \$1.50; 3 months, \$4.00; 6 months, \$7.50; 1 year, \$12.00.
Daily & Sunday, 1 month, \$1.50; 3 months, \$4.00; 6 months, \$7.50; 1 year, \$12.00.
Sunday only, 6 months, \$1.75; Sunday only, 1 year, \$2.50.

You can purchase merchandise advertised in THE TRIBUNE with absolute safety—for if dissatisfaction results in any case THE TRIBUNE guarantees to pay your money back upon request. No red tape, no quibbling. We make good promptly if the advertiser does not.

Uncovering a Great Conspiracy.

All signs point now to the rapid uncovering of the biggest alien conspiracy ever hatched on American soil. This conspiracy has had for its object the disorganization of American industries and the destruction of American property as well as of foreign property under American protection. It was an attempt by alien spies and secret agents to carry the war into America, to break our laws for the purpose of aiding one group of European belligerents.

It has been evident for some time past that the many outrages committed here—attempts to plant bombs on ships about to leave our harbors, to start fires in munitions and powder factories, to incite strikes in establishments producing war material for the Allies—have not been the work of individuals acting without concert. It is plain, on the contrary, that they have represented the operations of a group of alien plotters, financed from abroad and executing the secret orders of foreign governments.

With our easy-going tolerance we allowed these conspirators entirely too free a hand. Mr. Samuel Gompers announced several times that he had evidence to show that strikes were being fomented here by agents of the Teutonic alliance. But little or no attention was paid to his warnings. Then came the accidental seizure among James J. Archibald's papers of a secret letter from Ambassador Dumba to the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Office. That letter disclosed a purpose to use the Austro-Hungarian subjects employed at South Bethlehem and in munitions plants in the Middle West to tie up those plants. It spoke of withdrawing all Austro-Hungarians from these establishments through an offer to them of other employment. But the threat of more violent methods was implied—of sabotage or incendiarism. If the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador was willing to risk disgrace and dismissal by planning to incite disturbances in American industries, it was obvious that other alien agents less highly placed would not shrink from employing more desperate methods to obtain a result which the German military attaché in Washington had declared to be of considerable military importance.

Now we are getting closer to the details of the conspiracy. The revelations of Dr. Goricar, a former Austro-Hungarian consul, fit in with all the surface indications which have pointed to outrageous violations of American law by Teutonic agents trying to stop the manufacture of munitions here and their transportation to Europe. It is not necessary to assume that any particular individual, representing the German or the Austro-Hungarian government, is the head and centre of the conspiracy. But there is some head and centre, and it will be surprising if the United States Secret Service does not soon trace the conspiracy up to its real inner source.

The passivity of our government unduly emboldened the plotters. They have acted as if they believed that they would never be interfered with; that the government would turn its back on their activities rather than be drawn into another annoying foreign complication. That was a vain belief. Ambassador Dumba had to go as soon as he was exposed in his role as a strike organizer. Sterner punishment will be meted out to the other conspirators who are not protected by diplomatic usage. Consuls and non-official agents are subject to our criminal laws and can be punished for attempts to destroy life and property just as any other resident aliens can be punished.

We hope that guilt will quickly be established and punishment follow in enough cases to end forever the dastardly conspiracy which has defied our laws in the hope of gaining some military advantage for the Teutonic allies.

Short Shrift for Speeders.

There is no doubt that habitual violators of the automobile speed laws are not to be deterred by fines. Provision is made for the revocation of the licenses of such of them as are convicted three times, but for some reason or other this does not seem to be followed up as it should be. If Police Commissioner Woods's scheme for the taking of finger prints of these violators, for preservation and reference, would result in making more effective this provision, even in a slight degree, it would be well worth trying. And there seems to be little doubt that the plan would be a help.

Under the law, the Secretary of State may revoke an owner's or chauffeur's license after a third conviction for speeding on the recommendation of the trial judge. That recommendation is not given in many cases, because of the difficulty of

saddling previous convictions on the particular individual at the bar. With finger prints taken and kept on file, there could be no such obstacle. There would be a rogues' gallery of speeders, just as there now is of pickpockets, thieves and murderers. If a magistrate disregarded the intent of the law, or if, having made a recommendation for the cancellation of a license, the Secretary of State did not carry out his part of the punishment of the offender, the responsibility could be placed accurately just where it belonged.

The public, especially in large cities, is imperilled by these lawbreakers. Monthly the toll of injuries and deaths attributable to them grows. They should have short shrift.

Dr. Trudeau.

Somewhere in the writings of John Ruskin there is a saying on the function and fortune of a good woman. She does not find roses in her path, he says; she leaves them behind her. It is a pretty, graceful saying, peculiarly fitting as a tribute to womanhood, but surely it may be applied also to a good man, and never have we known of one who recalled it to us more vividly than it is recalled by Dr. Trudeau. He proved, as so many of the nobler figures in his profession have proved, that if the healing art is fertilized by science it is, after all, rooted in character.

With the wisdom of study and experience he could often make sick men well. With the play of his spirit and his courage he could always make them happy. It was a strong constructive mind that he brought to the solution of that tragic problem first put before him, with a double poignancy, in his own case, and when he organized the battle, now fighting for others as well as for himself, he assembled all the resources made available by modern research. But what we would lay stress upon is the great weight which he threw into the balance when he added to knowledge the qualities of his nature. He had a gallant heart, the kindness, the tenderness which are more than all the specifics of all the physicians. It was a great thing, he felt, to reach the goal, but greater was the joy of making the journey. Stricken souls who had, perhaps, but the dimmest hope of attaining the goal became confident of it when once he had paused at their side.

He knew how to exorcise fear. He could not only alleviate pain; he could teach the sufferer how to bear it with brightness and dignity. Almost one might say that he romanticized illness, for at least he minimized its terrors and turned the weary brain, brooding in a half-wrecked body, into braver channels. What a splendid reward was his! He saw men the better for his counsel and companionship, the better both physically and spiritually. And he saw this until he had very nearly reached the allotted three score and ten of mortal man. Could mortal man ask more?

"Should Authors Advertise?"

It is the Bulletin of the Authors' League of America which asks the question. The obvious answer is, "They do." As a matter of fact, in no other department of its development has the profession made such striking progress as in that of publicity. We have watched thirty years of literary log-rolling in this country, and at no other time during that period has it ever reached the thoroughness and efficient frankness of the present moment. Once its *do ut des* wore a beguiling mask of "My friend's wares for the sake of culture." To-day that face-saving top-dressing is dispensed with. The practice has become frankly commercial. We are in a hurry; we have no time for pretences and pretensions. The presses run fast, art may be long, but our market is now. The facilities for mutual publicity have multiplied tenfold. What they will be tomorrow none can tell, but the future looks ever brighter. Think of what the screen has already done for the makers of current American literature!

But it is not with this sort of advertising that the Bulletin is concerned. As always, it is eminently practical. What it seeks is a means of letting editors and publishers know where they can find what they require in a hurry. Newspaper men know this need perhaps best of all—the immediate scurrying, for instance, for photographs of places or people that suddenly "get into the news." And often what is the news of a day in the daily press becomes the news of the month in the magazines. "Time and again editors say, 'If we had only known you had a picture of this sort we gladly would have bought it instead of the stuff the syndicate showed us.'" Thus it is also with timely articles and books: the right man with the right manuscript, eagerly sought for, cannot be found until it is too late.

The Bulletin already publishes a Magazine Market Place department, a "wanted-to-buy" column. It now proposes an "offered-for-sale" column as well. As a matter of fact, such an enterprise was begun some five years ago in this city by a firm of literary agents, modelled on the "business opportunities" of our Consular Trade Reports. It failed through lack of support. Authors may have considered it "unethical"—the Bulletin takes that objection into consideration; certain it is that only one well-known writer made use of its columns, for the disposal, no doubt, of off-rejected odds and ends. The fact that the Authors' League has taken up the idea will probably give it the standing it has hitherto lacked; and it is likely that the society will carry it through with its usual efficiency. "Humorists will gey it for a while," observes the Bulletin philosophically, "but after a bit laughter will subside and the humorists themselves will be advertising their cheerful goods suitable for Christmas trade."

It is part—and an important part—of the publisher's and editor's business to know where to find the right man or woman for a special article, for books in any department of the literature of knowl-

edge. For these are not written on speculation, but are contracted for in advance. Still, these right men and women are not always at liberty, and sooner or later they drop out. An "offered-for-sale" column suggested by the Bulletin, and published in connection with its "wanted-to-buy" column, would make easier the path of the newcomers and lighten the work of publishers and editors. The Bulletin, admitting the superficial humor of its proposition, makes us see its serious and eminently practical side.

A Unique Benevolence.

The "floating hotel" Jacob A. Stamler, which the Fire Prevention Bureau has finally ordered closed as a fire menace, did long and honorable service. It afforded a cheerful, comfortable home to many hard-working girls who otherwise could have afforded nothing but the barest kind of existence in sordid boarding houses. Founded by the late John Arbuckle because of the benefit he derived from a sea trip while recovering from illness and the thought of what sea air would mean to many tired workers, it always was full and had a waiting list, but it never was self-sustaining. Indeed, it was not meant to be; the \$2.80 charged for room and board for a week was intended to help the young women there to feel that they were not objects of charity rather than to pay the cost of the enterprise.

It must be regretted by the community at large, as well as by the beneficiaries, that so worthy a philanthropy has come to an end. The old merchantman held a unique place in the scheme of agencies devised by the benevolence of the city to help working girls help themselves. It brought health and happiness to its lodgers and enabled them to be useful members of the community. The capital invested in it paid big dividends, laid up where thieves do not break through and steal.

The Seamen's Law Farce.

In his monthly magazine Senator La Follette is lauding the seamen's law as a masterpiece of deliberate and intelligent statesmanship and denouncing "the nationwide newspaper raid" on that law as "an affront to honest journalism." At one of the sessions yesterday of the Academy of Political Science the editor of "The Harvard Law Review" boasted that the La Follette seamen's act had elevated our navigation regulations to a level far above that of any other maritime country, excepting Australia. Why, then, should anybody complain?

Unfortunately, the United States government expects the owners of American vessels engaged in foreign commerce to compete with the vessels of many other countries far more potent and active in the deep sea trade than Australia is or is ever likely to be. Most of the other big maritime nations give subsidies, direct or indirect, to their merchant marines. We give none, and to make conditions still harder for our shipowners we are forcing on them an artificially increased operating cost. Mr. La Follette was undoubtedly sincere in his desire to deal as roughly with competing foreign shipowners using our ports as he did with American shipowners. But the administration has not had the courage to discipline foreign owners, fearing unpleasant diplomatic complications, and has now practically nullified the parts of the seamen's act which sought to compel all the other maritime countries to raise their standards to those of the United States and Australia.

Now we have a law on our hands which creates one more cost discrimination in favor of foreign shipowners and against American shipowners. And even the seamen, for whose benefit and whose benefit alone the La Follette law was passed, are now finding its inspection and qualification provisions a burden and are running to the Commerce Department at Washington for relief from them.

Secretary Redfield, having announced his readiness to suspend the law to meet other unforeseen contingencies, is now requested to let up on the examination of seamen on the Pacific Coast, so that crews can be got for vessels sorely needed in the Pacific trade.

The wonderful masterpiece of deliberate statesmanship so applauded by its author has been shot to pieces even before it has had a chance to work. Nearly every lifesaving provision apart, it is hardly worth amending. The sooner its non-lifesaving provisions are repealed the better it will be for shipowners, for our seamen and for the future of the American merchant marine.

THE NEXT.

God! How many more must there die,
Drowned at the Kaiser's behest,
Ere America rise and defy
This War-Lord, whose cynical jest
Puts ever her words to the test?

Yea, who are the next ones must pay
This tribute to Prussian contempt?
What are their names who to-day
Will be sent down mid horrors undreamt,
And not even children exempt?

Women—women and children his will
Selects for "regrettable losses";
While to submarine captains who kill
A thousand or more—why, he tosses
In God's name, a handful of crosses.

Wilt thou arbitrate over thy dead,
Great Nation of Freedom and Right?
Though assassins the earth overspread,
America, draw thy sword! Smite!
Once the Champion of All the Oppressed,
Star-crowned in thy deeds and in song,
Rise, stamp out dishonor confessed!
Thou who ever smote boldly the wrong,
Protect thine own children! Be strong!

—William Chauncy Langdon.

MAKING WAR IN AMERICA

Self-Respect Requires Harsh Treatment of Plotters.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The American people and government seem to be asleep. They seem to have no realization of the patent fact that a state of open war exists between the united Teutonic races of Europe and these United States of America, and that the former have actually carried the war into our own country in their own way, at their own time, and to suit their own convenience. It is true our government has sent away one Austrian diplomatic intriguer for his pernicious activity. But in spite of this fact the war of the Teutons upon the American Republic goes steadily forward.

Ships are fired at sea and in their berths at American docks. Manufacturing plants are burned or blown up, passengers are destroyed at sea, as were those of the Lusitania, and Teutonic Kultur and "efficiency" play the game so well that the simple Americans sit back and take the Teutonic poison with meek complacency.

Where is the spirit of Lincoln, of Grant and of the men who founded the Republic? Has our blood turned to dishwater and our patriotism to politeness? Have the people lost all love for the Republic, and has the government become a mere "fence" for the foreign foe?

Is there no element of the American population that can see how we are drifting each day into the realm of darker outrage and deeper humiliation? Is there no one anywhere to call a halt to the infamies which the Teutonic powers are inflicting upon us right at our doors?

How long will it be, if they are allowed to go on with impunity, before they will openly rise against us? The country is flooded with their emissaries, flooded with their minions and plotters. What will be their next move?

Why not move first ourselves, and so bring their plots to the surface, where they can be faced and analyzed? For all their splendid crimes and barbarities let the United States government seize at once every Teuton ship now interned in American waters, placing their crews in the regular prisons or turning them over to the Allies. Break off all relations of comity with them as with a band of robbers, so that they may see we do not "lack gall to make oppression bitter." Then, if outrages are continued, give them blow for blow, and make war on them by boycott and non-intercourse in such a manner as to bring them to their knees. Round up the traitors and spies who are in their employ from the Atlantic to the Pacific and deport them, with the ban that they may never again return to American soil.

A nation that will not shield itself from such vipers in human shape deserves to perish, and a government that will suffer such outrages and villanies without adequate retribution deserves to be overthrown.

Talk of peace! War is here! The Teutons are making war upon this Republic every day, and he must be blind, indeed, who is not aware of the fact. Figure from what they have done already on what they may do tomorrow.

New York, Nov. 12, 1915.

Cowardly Opportunism.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Like a bath of moral righteousness come the editorials of The Tribune to a nation which has entrusted its destinies to the hands of an administration swayed by the most sordid opportunism. In 1912 a strong, able man was tossed into the political discard because, like Caesar, he was ambitious. Who without ambition would have chalked beside his name such glorious achievements? Mr. Roosevelt is human. He has erred, perchance grievously at times, but his errors have usually been those of a big man. His bitterest enemies admit he is a man in the best interpretation of the word, and also he is an American first, last and all the time.

Would Mr. Roosevelt refuse to pursue to their source and publish the results thereof investigations of the criminal machinations of foreign-born anarchists against the sovereignty of this country because the trail might lead to the embassies of two foreign governments? Would he hesitate because this publicity might threaten to rupture wholly those relations already strained to a breaking point by a series of such acts of violence unprecedented heretofore against a nation at peace by foreign intrigues?

To my mind this quiescence is more reprehensible than that in connection with the Lusitania tragedy. That was an act of war, however barbarous and cowardly, perpetrated upon a vessel of a belligerent nation. The nefarious activities resulting in destruction of munition plants here are acts of war upon a country at peace with the world. Who dares since all the world may see that no sordid motives of trade will prevent us from standing up for what is right, even at the certainty of offending and the possibility of losing our best and largest customers. But must we not admit that, after all, we are nothing but impudent shams when we remember the meek way in which we have swallowed our protest against the murder of our fellow citizens and our apparent intention of measuring "strict accountability" in marks?

J. B. PHILLIPS, JR.

New York, Nov. 13, 1915.

Pendleton, Not Vallandigham.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: It is to be regretted that Captain Mathews impaired the value of his very interesting letter in to-day's Tribune by asserting that C. L. Vallandigham was General McClellan's associate on the Democratic ticket of 1864. The candidate for Vice-President at that ticket in that year was George H. Pendleton.

Also, one scarcely enjoys the innuendo that all the patriotism was confined to the West. I do not know from how far west Captain Mathews came, but it is well to remember that this Vallandigham to whom he refers was from Ohio. Let us call a son of Ohio, none other than James Abram Garfield, to describe him:

"But now when tens of thousands of brave souls have gone up to God under the shadow of the flag, when thousands more, maimed and shattered in the contest, sadly await the deliverance of death; now when the uplifted arm of a majestic people is about to hurl the bolts of its conquering power upon this rebellion, now in the quiet of this hall there rises a Benedict Arnold who proposes to surrender all up, the nation and its flag, its genius and its honor, now and forever to the accursed enemies of our country. And that proposition comes (may God forgive and pity my beloved state)—it comes from a citizen of the time honored and loyal commonwealth of Ohio. I implore you not to believe that another birth ever gave pangs to my mother state such as she suffered when that traitor was born."

No, captain; no particular section of this country was peculiarly loyal. Each part had its traitors, each its faithful sons.

W. G. NASH.

New York, Nov. 10, 1915.

FAMOUS AMERICAN VICTORIES.

CAN CONCORD
SARATOGA
GETTYSBURG
APPOMATTOX
LUSITANIA
ANCONA



QUESTIONABLE HUMANITY

Is Our Concern for Neutral Rights Only a Matter of Money?

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: However we may disagree with their general attitude, we cannot withhold a certain measure of respect from those Germans who have refused to endorse the sham sentiments of the majority of their fellow-countrymen about the war. It is a pity that most of us seem to be shams ourselves.

One result of the war so far as we are concerned has been beneficial, because the Entente powers have enormously helped business by buying from us so largely that we have a balance of trade greatly in our favor. Then, thanks to the British and French fleets, the seas are now fairly safe, our trade will not be seriously hurt so long as they have control, and we have meanwhile a chance to prepare our much needed defense.

Against these beneficial results we must set the loss of trade with the Teutonic Allies and the hampering of our trade with certain neutral countries, due to the effort of the Entente powers to prevent supplies going to their enemies. This effort involves difficulties, because we naturally have tried our best to keep up our trade with the Entente's enemies by shipping to them through neutral countries. Indeed, we have even tried to ship contraband of war by concealing it in non-contraband packages. We must also remember that for months ships sailing for our merchandise to the Entente powers have been constantly in danger of destruction by bombs as a result of such a wonderfully organized conspiracy in our country that we have so far utterly failed in putting a stop to it.

We are now, however, engaged in trying to pick a quarrel with our best and largest customers, the Entente powers, for their alleged breach of international law, because this undoubtedly interferes with a relatively small percentage of our overseas trade.

Taken by itself, there can be no question of the disinterested nobility of this attitude. Since all the world may see that no sordid motives of trade will prevent us from standing up for what is right, even at the certainty of offending and the possibility of losing our best and largest customers. But must we not admit that, after all, we are nothing but impudent shams when we remember the meek way in which we have swallowed our protest against the murder of our fellow citizens and our apparent intention of measuring "strict accountability" in marks?

F. A. J. FITZGERALD.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Nov. 9, 1915.

Inferiority of Our Brightest Minds.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I crave space in your paper, not to thank you for your editorial article in the issue of the 10th inst., nor to fully express my appreciation of the same, because words of appreciation are not sufficient. I would therefore, perforce, content myself with attempting in some small measure to thank you for, and to express my appreciation of, that article headed "Where the British Go Wrong."

Not the least important feature to me of this article is that its breadth of view, its keenness of perception of the fact that the New England States and this city are not exemplars of American ideas as an entirety in this war, and its blunt setting straight of the British people re the danger of mistaking American ideas at this juncture, are, in fact, such a throwing in of the "reversing lever," re The Tribune's ideas, as is nearly always the acid test of a large mind. In fact, it leads me to think that you will accept and give space to the ideas of one who differs radically from you re the idea that the Allies in general, and Great Britain in especial, are fighting, in essence, the battle of these United States in this war.

To one who, like myself, has had opportunities of comparing on the spot the industrial situation of England, France and Germany as regards machine tool equipment and productivity per capita, as regards "the man behind the tool," the figures of the growth of Germany's export trade from 1887 down to 1912 are enlightening to a degree. They show in round figures that in those twenty-five years, and without the exception of a single year, Germany's export trade grew until it equaled England's, within 10 per cent. This means

in effect that in twenty-five years Germany achieved an export trade within 10 per cent as large as it took England practically 400 years to build up; this, based upon the Elizabethan period, being the beginning of England's export trade.

What these figures signify to hyphenates—i. e., Anglo-American professional people like President Eliot, Joseph Choate and the editor of the average New England or New York City daily paper—is not known to me. What they ought to signify is quite clear, and what they do signify to the average man engaged in American industrial life, more especially pursuits allied with or based on machine tools and high productivity per capita of "the man behind the tool," is beyond doubt, and that is that these figures demonstrate the essential unteachability of the English people, at least such of them as are engaged in industrial pursuits. Putting it more bluntly and in more expressive language, in fact, in slang: "Industrially, these figures show that England is a load for a horse."

What type of mind is it or does it indicate when one sees the brightest minds in the country (lawyers, professors and editors) advocating an alliance in fact with a nation which has demonstrated its hopeless but persistent unteachability in trade, the thing we all live by? Can they not see that what they are advocating in fact is a combination to "uphold the incapables" in the struggle for trade, the thing we all live by? Can they not see that they are advocating in fact that we enter into a combination to "unionize" the labor of the civilized world—i. e., to level down instead of leveling up? Does the fact that the Right Hon. Samuel Gompers is an Englishman, and that he favors the Allies, escape their attention? More especially, is not the significance of these, taken in connection with other facts, enough for a blind man?

MAX H. C. BROMBACHER.

New York, Nov. 12, 1915.

"A Motherhood Strike."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your editorial under the above headline in last Sunday's Tribune attracted my attention, because the mere mention of such a strike, even though it be by some over-excited advocates of woman suffrage, tends to confirm the belief that the continued agitation of this question will ultimately develop serious antagonism between the sexes. You truly say: "Such a collective effort would imply an organization of sex beyond anything the world has known or seems likely to know."

A strike, at best, is a crude and clumsy weapon, and it must be a strain on the female imagination to even contemplate the measure suggested as a means for securing "votes for women." As they seem to be casting about for ways and means to retrieve what is temporarily, at least, a lost cause, I would respectfully suggest that instead of the proposed strike they form a woman trust based on the capitalistic idea of increasing demand by lessening supply. Under such a powerful incentive Dr. Schenk's idea of sex determination might be developed by the trust to a workable plan for reducing the proportion of female to male births to such an extent that the demand for wives would be so greatly increased that women could dictate their own terms of all pre-nuptial contracts.

Some critic may here point out that if women by this method reduced their proportional number to any great extent the ballot would be of no use to them, as they would be in a hopeless minority. I would say to that misguided person, be not deceived by false reasoning. As the law is at present in many states a wife gets one-third of her husband's property when he is dead. Under the operation of the proposed trust she could get it all while he lived.

It is highly improbable that women wish to vote because they anticipate any pleasure in the act of dropping a piece of paper in a box. Women who want the ballot very likely want it for what they imagine it will enable them to get with its aid.

Under the operation of the proposed trust an old saying would be slightly changed to read: "All that a man hath will he give for his wife." And another saying, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," would be verified.

ANTI-SUFF.

Lafayette, N. J., Nov. 10, 1915.

"THE SHAM."

An Englishman's Comments on the Sins of the Government.

A friend of The Tribune permits us to publish the following private letter from one of his correspondents in England:

"The desperate plight we are in makes it difficult to write anything. The coalition government was so cunningly arranged by the Asquith Cabinet that those of the patriot party who have office have insufficient voice. Carson's resignation is the action of a man of strength of character."

"What has interested me extremely is the set of extracts given by 'The Morning Post' from a leader in The New York Tribune called 'The Sham.' That paper has, I can see, grasped the truth which I wanted to put before the American people when last year I asked if you could get an article of mine inserted. Americans can now realize that it was no want of patriotism which made those of us who had suspicion of the game and knew what liars the deceiving lawyers and journalists in the Cabinet were. It was indignation against them, and it is still indignation white hot against such treachery as Asquith's and Haldane's and Grey's."

"Mine was almost the first voice that spoke in any paper against Grey. Only one paper would take it, and then it had to be 'wrapped up' in poetic form. Lloyd George was playing the fool with all our finances and rousing class hatred, but it is quite certain that Asquith, Haldane and Grey had kept back from him and others in the Cabinet much of the truth, and his eager attention to munitions shows him not so gullible, prejudiced as he may be, as they."

"I don't know the date of The New York Tribune which 'The Morning Post' quotes, but I compliment the editor on his grasp of the situation, and it is better, probably, that it should have been put by him than by an Englishman."

"What to think of your President I do not know. I do understand Roosevelt, as at any rate is a man and has acumen. I wish Americans generally would or could see that to help Germany in any way means prolonging a war that will financially cripple all Europe, and in the end American trade must suffer. Whereas, without going to war, America might easily stop the war and end the unspeakable cruelties by telling Germany that all trade between her and the United States will be stopped if she does not cease her evil ways."

"Though The New York Tribune (so far as the extracts in 'The Morning Post' give its words from the article) has grasped the truth, there is still more of the truth which is not in those extracts which has placed us at home and abroad in this desperate plight. It is impossible to foresee anything, because, with the constitution broken down by the most unfortunate assent of the sovereign, who evidently did not see what he was doing—being tricked by his scoundrel advisers—we cannot judge anything."

"There are no more of our own relations (my wife's and mine), so far as we know, still to join the forces. Every one who is of the age and is capable is in one or other of the services. The upper classes of Great Britain have responded to the call freely and have, I think, few 'slackers'; so has the upper middle class, and so in many parts of the country the lower class. The 'slackers' are chiefly, I think, of the lower middle class. 'One of my wife's cousins,' the Earl of —, actually enlisted as a private soldier, and is now lance corporal. It was good intention on his part, but it was throwing away his position, because as an officer he would have commanded more influence. This, however, he may yet have the chance to do, if his life is spared."

"Badly as England has been governed and desperate as the condition is, the old country is standing in defence of justice and right against the most fiendish of all plots and the most devilish of cruelties."

"What 'neutrals' seem to us in this life and death struggle I must not say. Neutrality that looks on assassin and defender as equally at fault—or acts as if it did—is not of high moral standing or noble courage. Much could be done by unselfish neutrals (without entering into war) by effective arresting of the assassin's arm."